

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

APR 22 2008

**KRIEG · DEVAULT** LLP  
**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

**FAX COVER PAGE**

DATE: April 22, 2008

PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 16

TO: Examiner Alvin J. Stewart, Group Art Unit 3774  
 COMPANY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8300  
 PHONE NUMBER:

FROM: Douglas A. Collier

DIRECT DIAL: (317) 238-6333

FAX NUMBER: (317) 636-1507

RE: Response to Office Action for U.S. Patent Application No. 10/648,056 to Jeff R. Justis et al.

COMMENTS: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

April 22, 2008  
 (Date of Transmission)

Douglas A. Collier  
 Name of Registered Representative

*Douglas A. Collier*  
 Signature

Hard copy will be sent via: ☐ Regular Mail☐ Overnight Courier☒ Fax Communication Only

Name of Sender: Cheryl Kalugyer

Client Matter No.: 333 MSDI-77

**WARNING CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE**

The documents constituting this fax transmittal contain confidential information belonging to the sender which is legally privileged. The information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or the taking of any action in reliance upon the content of this fax transmittal is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax transmittal in error, please immediately notify us by telephone at the number below to arrange for return of the original documents to us. Thank you.

For Questions or Problems in Transmission, Please Contact our Fax Operators

KRIEG DEVAULT LLP  
 ONE INDIANA SQUARE  
 SUITE 2800  
 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204  
 TELEPHONE-(317) 636-4341  
 FAX-(317) 636-1507

KRIEG DEVAULT LLP  
 12800 N MERIDIAN STREET  
 SUITE 300  
 CARMEL, IN 46032  
 TELEPHONE-(317) 566-1110  
 FAX-(317) 636-1507

KRIEG DEVAULT GALVIN  
 LLP  
 5231 HOHMAN STREET  
 HAMMOND, IN 46320  
 TELEPHONE-(219) 933-0380  
 FAX-(219) 933-0471

KRIEG DEVAULT LUNDY  
 LLP  
 825 ANTHONY WAYNE  
 BUILDING  
 203 EAST BERRY STREET  
 FT. WAYNE, IN 46802  
 TELEPHONE-(260) 422-1534  
 FAX-(260) 423-1590

KD\_IM-1383216\_1.DOC

APR 22 2008

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

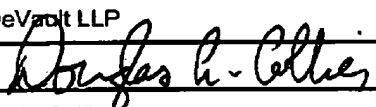
Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

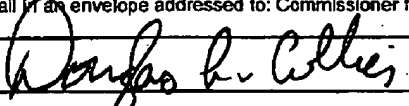
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/648,056
	Filing Date	August 26, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Jeff R. Justis et al.
	Art Unit	3774
	Examiner Name	Alvin J. Stewart
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	MSDI-77/PC753.00

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Fax Cover Sheet
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Krieg DeVault LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Douglas A. Collier		
Date	April 22, 2008	Reg. No.	43,556

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
Signature			
Typed or printed name	Douglas A. Collier	Date	April 22, 2008

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 22 2008

#1374230

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent  
application of:  
Jeff R. Justis, et al.

Serial No. 10/648,056

Filed: August 26, 2003

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR  
INTERVERTEBRAL REDUCTIONBefore the Examiner:  
Alvin J. StewartGroup Art Unit:  
3774

April 22, 2008

Atty Docket No.  
MSDI-77/PC753.00RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTIONCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-Final Office Action mailed January 22, 2008, Applicants hereby submit the following amendments and remarks. No fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of the enclosed. However, please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees due or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 12-2424, but not including the payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

April 22, 2008  
Date of TransmissionDouglas A. Collier  
Name of Registered Representative  
SignatureApril 22, 2008  
Date of SignatureResponse to Non-Final Office Action  
Ser. No. 10/648,056  
Atty Docket No. MSDI-77/PC753.00  
Page 1 of 14